

Chapter IX.

DIVERSITY ELEMENT

1. Vision and Goals

A community in which neighbors know and help one another, in which diversity is valued and welcomed. This would be a neighborhood which welcomes people of any race, age, family makeup, and economic status; a neighborhood that has a close relationship with its local businesses and public school; a neighborhood in which community is a reality, not just an ideal.

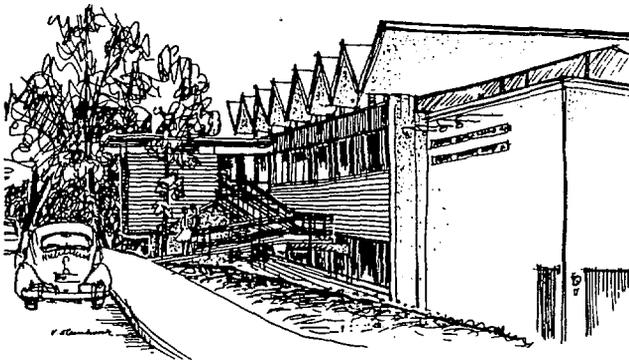
This vision—which applies to residents, businesses, and the neighborhood school—can be our Eastlake if we plan well for diversity.

The Eastlake Tomorrow Diversity goals, each of which is associated with specific recommendations, are as follows:

Goal D-1 Promote diversity among Eastlake’s residents and strengthen their relationship with the TOPS program (Eastlake’s public school)

Goal D-2 Build ties between Eastlake’s business and residential communities

This chapter on the Diversity planning element first defines terms and summarizes the relevant direction from the City’s Comprehensive Plan, provides background on the planning process, and finally lists the recommendations and categorizes them as key, near-term, and long-term.



UnitedIndians of All Tribes (at 1945 Yale Place East), the largest social service provider in Eastlake.

2. Definitions of Terms

Eastlake web site: An internet home page (<http://www.oo.net/et>) which is accessible via the worldwide web. Established for Eastlake Tomorrow, the web site has a section where Eastlake businesses are invited to place information or links to their own web sites.

TOPS: The Options Program at Seward, a well-regarded K-8 alternative school that is part of the Seattle School District. After Seward Elementary School closed in 1989 as a neighborhood school, TOPS was moved from Capitol Hill to the Seward site.

3. Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan

Many goals and policies of the Seattle Comprehensive Plan are relevant to our efforts to promote diversity in Eastlake. With the July 25, 1994, ordinance adopting the Comprehensive Plan, the City Council also adopted a resolution establishing a City vision. The resolution recognizes diversity as one often basic values shared by Seattleites. The resolution also endorses four core values, several of which (if not all) contribute to diversity. These core values are: community; environmental stewardship; economic opportunity and security; and social equity. The 1994 resolution commits the City to "achieve a more equitable society." (An entire section of the Comprehensive Plan addresses housing; its provisions are summarized later in Chapter X, Affordable Housing).

In 1995, the City Council added to the Comprehensive Plan a Human Development Element, which contains the following goals and policies that relate to diversity:

- . Make Seattle a place where people are involved in community and neighborhood life; where they help each other and contribute to the vitality of the city (G 1, Human Development Element goal)
- Promote respect and appreciation for diversity, including economic, racial, cultural, and individual differences (G2, Human Development Element goal)
- . Provide equal opportunity and fair access to services (G3, Human Development Element goal)
- . Work toward achieving a sense of belonging among all Seattle residents by: (HD1, Human Development Element policy)
 - a) Promoting opportunities that bring people together to help them build connections to each other, their peers, their neighbors and the greater community. Seek to increase opportunities for personal contact and public interaction in the patterns of peoples' daily activities.
 - b) Enhancing opportunities for intergenerational activities
 - c) Striving to reach people in new ways to encourage broad participation in neighborhood and community activities and events

- . Encourage community efforts that work toward achieving a diversity of ages, incomes, household types and sizes, and cultural backgrounds throughout the city and region. (HD7, Human Development Element policy)
- In addition to upholding federal, state, and local laws against discrimination and bias crimes, work to promote human rights and mutual respect and to end intolerance and divisiveness. Reach out and bring people together in ways that build bridges between individuals and between groups. (HD8, Human Development Element policy)
- Celebrate diversity through community activities and events that recognize different groups. Bring people together to experience and learn about ethnic and cultural traditions. Involve children, youth, and adults of all ages in intergenerational activities to lend support to and learn from each other. (HD9, Human Development Element policy)
- . Policy HD1 O Work to improve access to City and community services and to remove obstacles that keep people from receiving the services they need by: (HD 10, Human Development Element policy)
 - a) Improving facility and program accessibility through implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - b) Enhancing opportunities for people with low incomes, disabilities, limited English-speaking ability, and other barriers to service to participate fully in community life and to access assistance.
- . Strive to assist and enhance efforts that help older people meet their basic needs, maintain their independence as long as possible, and remain in their neighborhoods of choice. (HD 18, Human Development Element policy)
- . Encourage parent, volunteer, business, and community support for education and their involvement in schools. (HD20, Human Development Element policy)

In 1997, the City Council added to the Comprehensive Plan a Cultural Resources Element. This element contains the following goals and policies that relate to diversity:

- . A city that welcomes diversity; works to raise awareness and understanding of the city and its peoples; and nurtures the ethnic and cultural traditions of its diverse citizenry. (G1, Cultural Resources Element goal)
- . A city where the sense of community is strong, opportunities for people to interact with each other are many, and conditions that contribute to isolation and segregation are discouraged. (G2, Cultural Resources Element goal)
- Encourage and support communities in celebrating, preserving, and transmitting their traditions through cultural activities, the arts, education, publishing and reading, and public events. (CR1, Cultural Resources Element policy)
- . Use cultural resources to promote cross-cultural awareness and depict differing points of view in order to foster open and intentional exploration of the issues and conditions that

tend to divide communities, so that actions can be taken to confront and overcome these conditions. (CR2, Cultural Resources Element policy)

- . Increase awareness of the community's heritage by encouraging public participation in documenting Seattle's history, especially the participation of the elderly who provide the most direct connection with the past. (CR14, Cultural Resources Element policy)
- Create opportunities for Seattle students to be exposed to many cultures in a variety of venues throughout the city, so that their education may be well-rounded. (CR34, Cultural Resources Element policy)

4. Planning Background

Preserving and enhancing diversity has been a concern of the Eastlake community for many years. The December 1992 Eastlake Tomorrow framework plan identified diversity as one of the neighborhoods six priority projects, with this mission: "To ensure that Eastlake continues to develop as a vital, fill-spectrum human community with a rich diversity of people, housing, social programs, and economic life." A diversity committee was formed. It organized a diversity fair in September 1993, and worked to strengthen the Eastlake Community Land Trust and its efforts to encourage affordable housing.

A December 5, 1995, Eastlake Tomorrow workshop included a breakout session on diversity and housing which produced this action plan:

- . Reaffirm the goal of establishing an affordable housing project **in** the neighborhood.
- . Invite people in the neighborhood to nominate sites as possible housing projects, in support of the efforts of the Eastlake Community Land Trust and its agreement with the Capitol Hill Housing Improvement Program.
- Campaign for a community center and/or senior center in the neighborhood.
- . Publicize existing day care opportunities in the neighborhood.

In the current phase of neighborhood planning, the Diversity planning team has been coordinated by Bob Geballe and Sandra Henricks. One of the planning team's first activities (July 23, 1996) was to cosponsor with the Eastlake Community Council a presentation by the Seattle Human Rights Department. This presentation dealt with strategies for keeping Eastlake open and welcoming to a variety of people.

In a series of questions about diversity on the 1996 Eastlake Tomorrow survey, at least 44% of the 402 respondents placed a high priority on having the following in the neighborhood: a range of housing rents, senior services, access for the disabled, anti-discrimination education, and child-friendliness; only five % or less said no to any of these items. On September 24, 1996, an Eastlake Tomorrow public meeting addressed diversity. Ideas that emerged included notification of renters and seniors of their rights and the services available for them; and support for those who are willing to file a discrimination complaint.

On November 8, 1997, at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, the Diversity planning team organized a neighborhood-wide public workshop on the theme, "What Does Diversity Mean to Our Eastlake

Community?" A facilitator/trainer led introductions in which attendees learned about one another's heritage. The group played "culture bingo," a game designed to encourage awareness of their diversity of experiences. (The winner was the first to identify five attendees in a row who could name three Motown hits, ten Indian tribes, or the origin of the Stonewall riots, had attended a Cinco de Mayo celebration, etc.). A tour of Broadway House, the nearby low income housing project, was led by resident Janet Welt, a board member of the Eastlake Community Land Trust.

Three work groups at the workshop explored the following questions:

- . What kind of diversity do we have in our community?
- What kind of diversity do we want in our community?
- . What are some of the ways we can promote diversity?
- . How do we build ties between our businesses and our residential community?

Key findings of the November 8 work groups were as follows:

- . Eastlake residents are overwhelmingly Caucasian.
- A substantial number of Eastlake businesses are owned by ethnic minorities.
- Housing stock is expensive and appreciating rapidly.
- . Apartment space is in great demand.
- . Few neighborhood children are enrolled in Seward School.

Recognizing affordable housing as an important means to preserve and enhance neighborhood diversity, the Diversity planning team encouraged formation of a housing task force that helped prepare Chapter X on Affordable Housing.

5. Diversity Recommendations

Following are recommendations (classified as key, near-term, or long-term) that will carry out the goals of the Diversity element.

Goal D-1: Promote diversity among Eastlake's residents and strengthen their relationship with the TOPS program (Eastlake's public school)

- D-1.1 Obtain a grant to develop a plan within the neighborhood and take action to encourage more ethnic diversity among residents [Key]
- D-1.2 Increase affordable housing [Key; see Chapter X on Affordable Housing]
- D-1.3 Work with SEATRAN and King County Metro for a transportation network that is accessible to seniors, children, and the disabled [Key]

- D-1.4 Work with the Seattle School District to make the Options Program at Seward (TOPS) more available to neighborhood children by establishing neighborhood residency as the top priority for Seward assignment [Key]

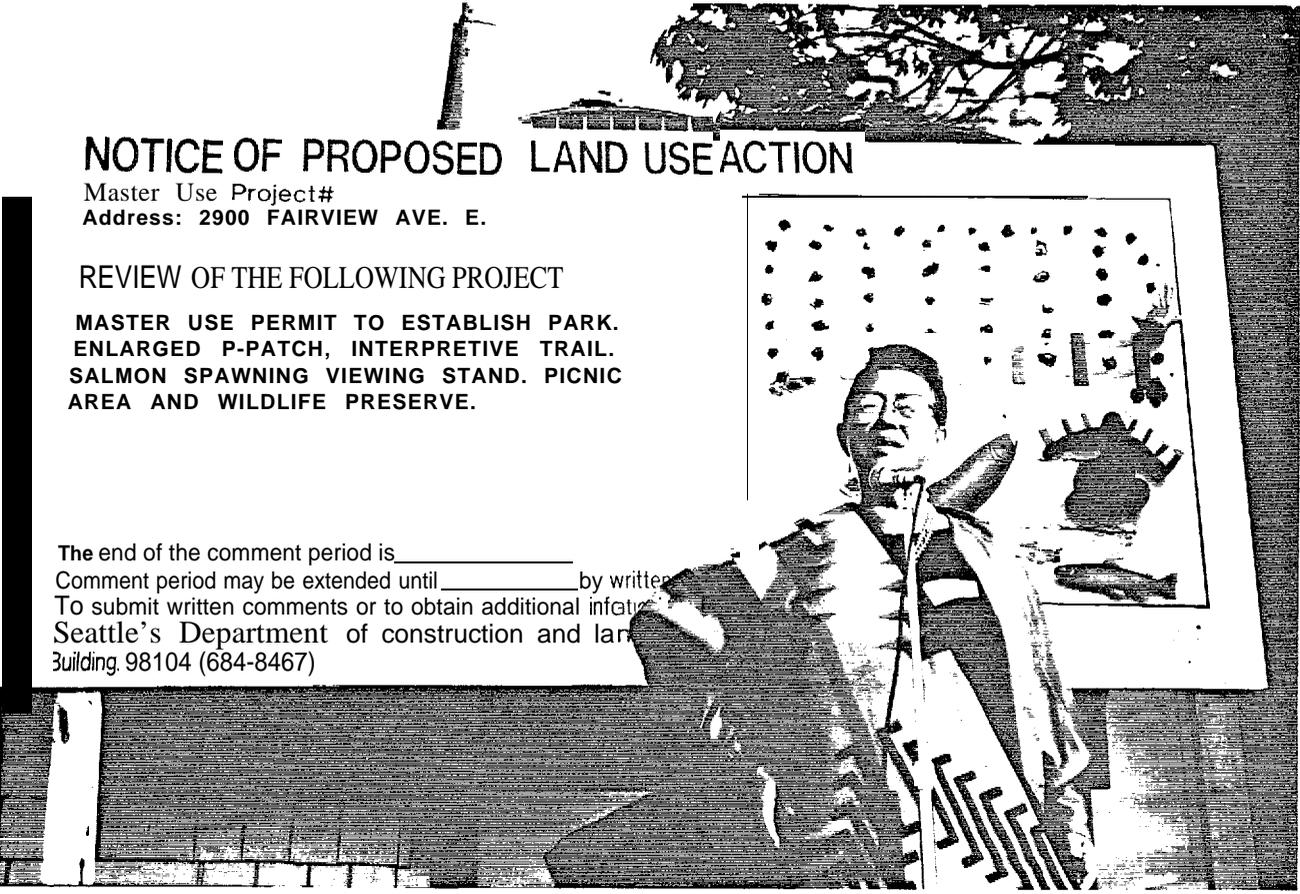
Goal D-2: Build ties between Eastlake’s business and residential communities

- D-2.1 Preserve “Mom and Pop” and other small neighborhood-serving businesses ~ear-term]
- D-2.2 Develop a program within the neighborhood to increase interaction between businesses and community residents and acknowledge their respective importance and contributions to the community [Key]
- D-2.3 Provide “welcome packets” for new residents and businesses ~ear-term]
- D-2.4 Use the Eastlake web site for advertising [Near-term]

Long-time Eastlake
resident.



A neighborhood goal is to
become more accessible to
all. Good Turn Park is
designed for wheelchair use.



NOTICE OF PROPOSED LAND USE ACTION

Master Use Project#

Address: 2900 FAIRVIEW AVE. E.

REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING PROJECT

MASTER USE PERMIT TO ESTABLISH PARK.
ENLARGED P-PATCH, INTERPRETIVE TRAIL.
SALMON SPAWNING VIEWING STAND. PICNIC
AREA AND WILDLIFE PRESERVE.

The end of the comment period is _____

Comment period may be extended until _____ by written

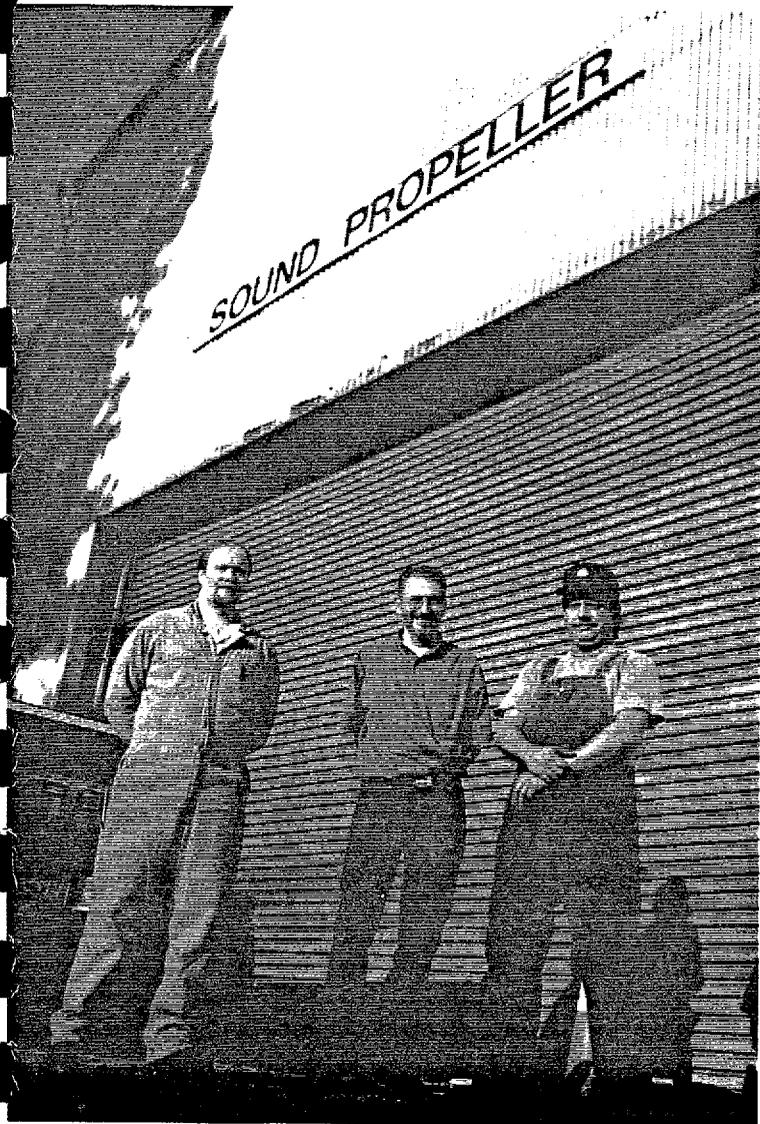
To submit written comments or to obtain additional information

Seattle's Department of construction and land

Building, 98104 (684-8467)

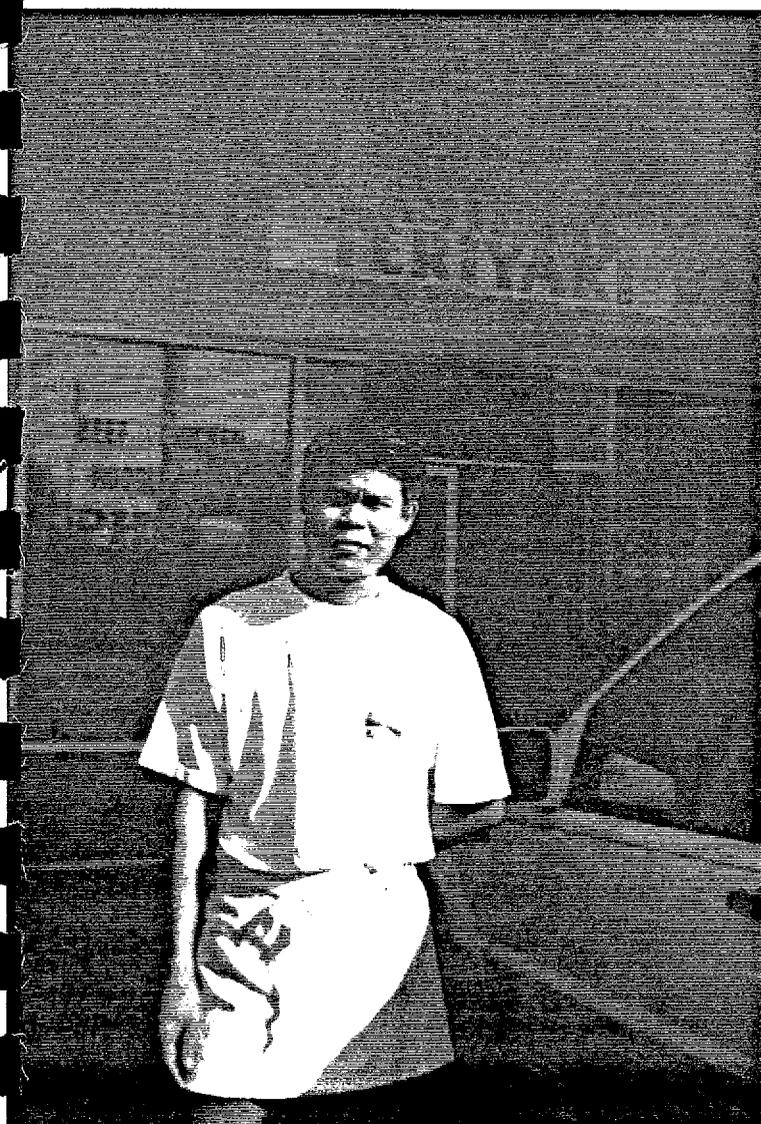
*Vi Hilbert, upper Skagit Eder, helped
establish Fairview-Olmsted Park.*

A small business can be like a family.

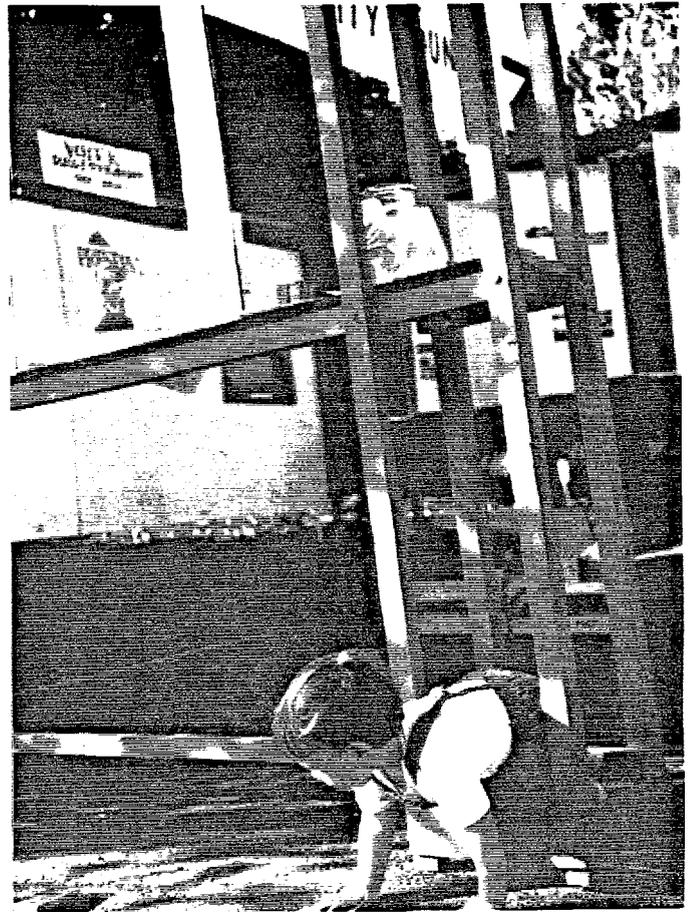


Sound Propeller and others continue the tradition of Eastlake's maritime industry.

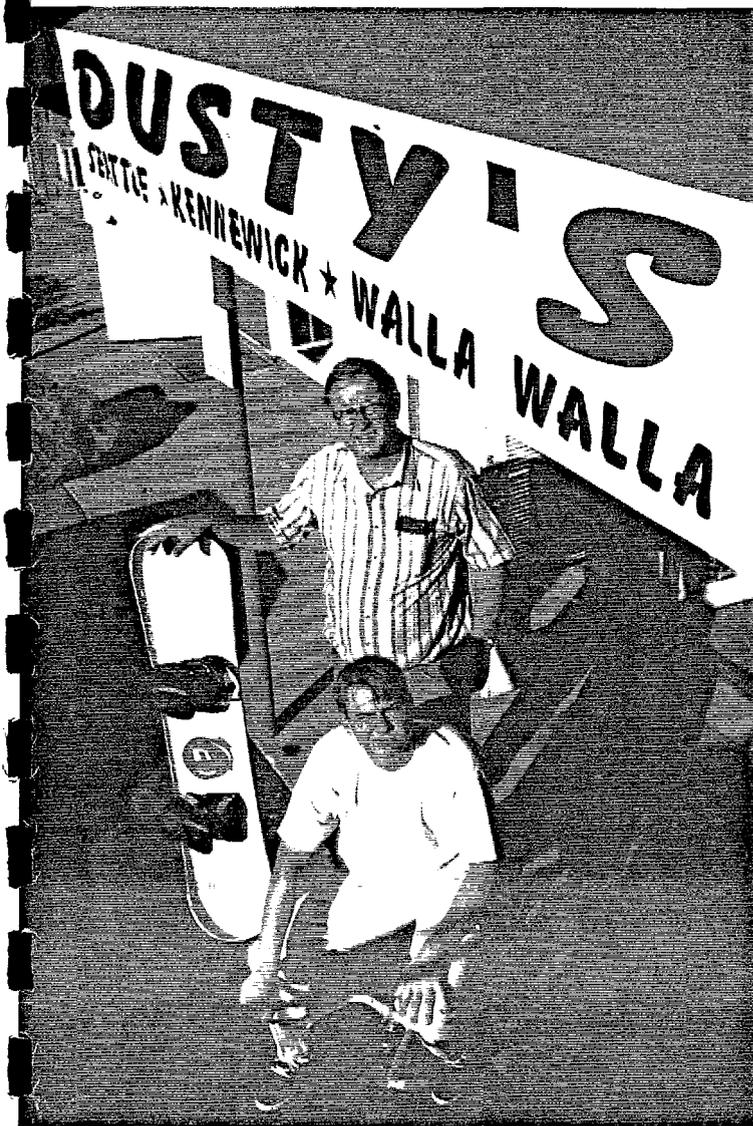
Ethnic restaurants and
their employees have
brought new diversity
to Eastlake.



Eastlake's young child population is growing in more ways than one.



Eastlake restaurant owners offer more than a place to eat... they also are a place of community.



Father and son sell ski and snow boards at the south end of Eastlake (surf boards are sold at the north end!)

Small business owners introduce their children early to what they do at work.





An Eastlake threesome.